

Nearly \$350,000 will go towards the purchase of a new fire truck and protective gear

Ocean County - Congressman John Adler today announced \$344,556 in federal grant funds for the two Ocean County volunteer fire companies. The grants are intended to support the recruitment and retention of emergency response personnel through additional resources and training.

"Our firefighters risk their lives to keep our communities safe," Congressman Adler said. "Ocean County families deserve their fair share of federal resources for public safety."

The Pinewald Pioneer Volunteer Fire Company #1, Berkeley Township, will receive \$247,500 to go towards the purchase of a new pumper fire truck. The Stafford Township Volunteer Fire Company # 1 will receive \$97,056 for protective gear.

"Especially during these tough economic times, the fears of Berkeley having another forest fire are great. Acquiring equipment through a federal grant is extremely helpful to the town and its taxpayers. We would like to thank Congressman Adler for his hard work in helping us secure these important funds," said Berkeley Mayor Jason Varano.

"Stafford Township's volunteer firefighters needed new gear," said Stafford Township Mayor John McMenamin. "It was critical for our Township to work with Congressman Adler's office to secure these funds."

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency awarded this grant under the Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) Program. These funds will enhance the ability of fire departments to implement fire safety and prevention programs.

Last year, Congressman Adler hosted several workshops to ensure local public safety departments were informed about the federal grant process. He supported the Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act and the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, which provided increased funding for Assistance to Firefighters Grants.